

LIBRARY

Poulton-le-Fylde  
Urban District Council



**ANNUAL REPORT**

*on the*

*Health & Sanitary*

*Conditions*

*for 1946*



L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



Poulton-le-Fylde  
Urban District Council



**ANNUAL REPORT**

*on the*

*Health & Sanitary*

*Conditions*

*for 1946*



L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

# Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council

---

To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde  
Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Seventh Annual Report for  
the year ending December 31st, 1946.

I have to express my thanks to the members of the Council  
for their support and co-operation, and for the assistance which I  
have constantly received from the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. G.  
Woolley.

I am, Sir and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H.

*Medical officer of Health.*

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The area of the district is 2,410 acres, it is divided into five wards, viz. : Poulton North, Poulton East, Poulton West, Hardhorn and Carleton. It is bounded on the North side by the Urban District of Thornton-Cleveleys, on the East and South by the Parishes of Singleton and Hardhorn-with-Newton, and on the West by the County Borough of Blackpool.

The district is mainly residential, and most of the industrial population is employed by agriculture, the Imperial Chemical Industries, the L. M. & S. Railway Company and the Building Trades.

The area is supplied with good and wholesome water by the Fylde Water Board. The whole of the area is sewered on the combined system ; and is carried by gravitation to storage tanks situate on Skippool Marsh, and discharged into the River Wyre Estuary on the ebb tide.

---

### Births.

Births :—Boys 59 ; Girls 50 ; Total 109.

The number of births registered in the district was 109, giving a birth rate of 14.9 per thousand of the population as against 15.0 per thousand for the previous year.

There were eight illegitimate births, and two still births registered.

### Infantile Mortality.

One death under one year has been recorded during the year—giving a rate of 9 per thousand live births as against 19 for the previous year.

The rate for England and Wales during the year was 43.

### Deaths.

Males . 47      Females 51.      Total 98.

The number of deaths in the district was 98 after deducting deaths of persons not resident in the district, and adding deaths of residents which occurred in other districts.

## Causes of Death.

	Males	Females	Total
All Causes.....	47	51	98
Influenza.....	1	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	2	—	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis.....	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases.....	1	—	1
Cancer.....	5	9	14
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions.....	7	6	13
Heart Disease.....	15	15	30
Other Circulatory Diseases.....	5	5	10
Bronchitis.....	3	3	6
Pneumonia.....	1	—	1
Other Respiratory Diseases.....	—	2	2
Maternal Causes.....	—	—	—
Appendicitis.....	—	—	—
Digestive Diseases other than appendicitis.....	—	—	—
Nephritis.....	—	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Births, etc.....	—	1	1
Suicide.....	—	—	—
Road Traffic Accidents.....	—	—	—
Other Violence.....	1	2	3
All Other Causes.....	5	8	13
Diarrhoea under two years.....	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever.....	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum.....	1	—	1
	47	51	98

This gives a crude death rate of 13.4 per thousand, compared with 12.3 in the previous year.

## Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases notified during the year was fourteen, nine of which were respiratory and five non-respiratory. Two deaths from Tuberculosis were recorded, both respiratory.

The notification of tuberculosis is satisfactory.

Table showing New Cases and Mortality during 1946 :—

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 .....	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10-15 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
20-25 .....	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 .....	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 .....	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45-55 .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 55 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	6	3	3	2	2	—	—	—

### Cancer (Malignant Disease).

There were fourteen deaths from Cancer during the year, giving a rate of 1.92 per thousand as against 2.06 for the previous year.

### Diphtheria.

One case of Diphtheria was notified during the year.

Under the Diphtheria Anti-Toxin (outside London) Order of 1910, serum is supplied free for the use of the inhabitants of the District. A stock is held by the Medical Officer of Health.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

The Campaign against Diphtheria continues satisfactorily, as will be seen in the following table. The latest national figures show that approximately 50% of the potential child population in the country has been immunised, so it will be seen that the Poulton-le-Fylde figures compare favourably. During the last five years, practically all the immunisations have been carried out by the Medical Officer of Health at the school clinic. Any parent wishing to take advantage of this protection against Diphtheria should sign the necessary consent form at the Town Hall.



The immunisations are carried out at 2-0 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month. As the immunising material is provided free by the Government, the only charge to the Council for this valuable service is 50% of the cost of the stationery, needles and syringes which is negligible.

### Number of Children Immunised During 1946.

Age Group pre-school Children aged 0—4 Inclusive		Age Group School Children aged 5—14 incl.	
No. Immunised 1946	.... 98		24
Total No. Immunised	.... 258		709
Estimated child Population	.... 489		873
% Immunised	.... 53%		31%
No. of Reinforcements	....		113

### Scarlet Fever.

During the year thirteen cases of Scarlet Fever have been notified. No inoculation has been effected with regard to Scarlet Fever. The incidence of the cases was sporadic.

### Influenza.

With the exception of sporadic cases of Influenza, the district has been comparatively free during the year.

### Infectious Diseases.

46 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year.



Table of Cases of Notifiable Diseases during 1946.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Total cases of all ages.	AGE PERIODS — YEARS												Total Deaths	HOSPITAL	
		Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65 & Over		Total cases Removed to Hospital.	Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to district.
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever ... ..	13	—	—	—	1	—	8	1	—	1	—	2	—	13	—	
Diphtheria (incl. Membranous Group)	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough ... ..	9	—	2	2	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles (excl. German Measles) ..	21	—	2	7	2	2	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute pneumonia (primary & Influenza)	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Polio-encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis lethargica ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Any other diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS ... ..	46	—	4	9	4	3	21	1	—	1	—	3	—	14	—	

### **Measles.**

There were twenty-one cases of measles notified during the year. These were sporadic. None of the cases proved fatal.

### **Bacteriological Examination.**

Facilities for the examination of material for suspected cases of Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Tuberculosis, etc., are available for all medical practitioners. Thirty-four specimens were sent for examination. These included One for diphtheria, Thirty-one for Scarlet Fever and Two for Enteric Fever.

### **Nursing.**

There is a District Nursing Association and one District Nurse is employed. Her services are available for any of the inhabitants of the town for sickness other than infectious diseases and midwifery. The Association is financed by voluntary contributions

### **Midwives.**

There are no registered midwives in the district.

### **Clinic and Treatment Centres.**

There are no clinic or treatment centres under the direct control of the local authority.

The Child Welfare Centre, which is held every Tuesday from 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. in the Church Hall, Vicarage Road, is under the control of the County Authority. The local Education Authority also provides a School Clinic in the same premises each Friday morning.

A campaign against Venereal Disease is carried out by the County Council in co-operation with the local authority. The centres for the treatment of these cases are at Victoria Hospital Blackpool, and the Royal Infirmary, Preston.

## Hospitals.

The local authority contributes to the Manchester Hospitals and Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, for cases for general sickness and accidents. For infectious diseases, contributions are made towards the maintenance of the Fylde Joint Hospital at Moss Side, Lytham, which contains 64 beds. For smallpox cases, provision is made at the Elswick Leys Hospital of the Fylde, Preston and Garstang Joint Hospital Board, of which Poulton-le-Fylde is a constituent authority. 30 Beds are provided and further accommodation is available at the Elswick Sanatorium in case of epidemic.

## Ambulance Facilities.

For infectious cases the Fylde Joint Hospital and the Fylde, Preston and Garstang Hospital Board provide motor ambulances.

For non-infectious and accident cases a joint Ambulance Service is maintained by the Poulton-le-Fylde U.D.C. and Thornton-Cleveleys U.D.C. This provides a twenty-four-hourly service and is adequate. Co-ordination is maintained with the Blackpool and Fleetwood Services.

## The Education (Administration Provisions) Act, 1907.

Under this Act, the Medical Officers of the County Authority make periodic examinations of children attending the schools.

A great advantage of the operation of Section III L.G.A., 1929, is that the School Medical Work in the Town is now carried out by the Council's Medical Officer of Health.

## Water Supply.

The Fylde Water Board, of which Poulton-le-Fylde is a constituent authority, provides a plentiful and excellent supply of water from their gathering grounds at Grizedale and Stocks.

## Supplies to Houses.

From Public Mains				From Private Supplies	
Direct to Houses		By Means of Standpipe		No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Population
No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Population	No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Population		
2135	7252	Nil	Nil	8	26

## **Milk Supply.**

There are 44 cowkeepers registered and 39 Dairymen or Milk Purveyors. During the year the Lancashire County Council have taken samples of milk from the cattle in the district.

## **Sale of Food and Drugs Act.**

The sampling of food is carried out by the County Police Authorities.

## **Housing Conditions.**

### **1. General Observations as to Housing conditions.**

Housing conditions in the district are good. 90 per cent of the houses are modern and the older property in the centre of the town is kept in a fair state of repair by the owners.

There are no back-to back houses in the District.

### **2. Sufficiency of Supply of Houses.**

#### **(a) Extent of Shortage.**

There is a definite shortage of houses in the area. 321 applications for municipal houses already filed. A scheme for building 104 houses has been approved, and construction of houses will commence in 1946.

#### **(b) Particulars of any housing scheme.**

(i) in hand. The Council have let one contract for the first 20 houses on their Lower Green Estate. Work on these houses has commenced.

(ii) contemplated. The Council will let further contracts as permitted by the Ministry, to complete the whole scheme which covers 100 houses.

#### **(c) Information as to any important changes in population.**

No important changes.

- (d) Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses.

None.

3. Overcrowding.

- (a) Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the local authority which have been relieved during 1946 : None.
- (b) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding : None.
- (c) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding, e.g. causes :

From the applications for Council Houses which have been received, it would appear that in many cases overcrowding is caused through children marrying and living with their parents due to the shortage of houses to let.

4. Fitness of Houses.

- (a) Difficulties found in action under the Public Acts or under the Housing Acts: None.
- (b) Special Measures taken e.g. in relation to carrying out programmes of repair: None.
- (c) No. of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply: None.
- (d) No. of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation: None.

5. Unhealthy Areas: None.

6. Action taken during the year regarding:—

- (1) Clearance Areas: None.
- (2) Improvement Areas: None.

## 7. Byelaws relating to houses, etc.

Adequate.

### Disinfection of Houses.

No terminal Disinfections have been carried out in cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and other infectious diseases. Disinfectant fluid is issued to all cases on request.

### Eradication of Bed Bugs.

#### *Particulars of Action taken during 1946.*

No. of Houses found to be infested.

(a) Council Houses.....None.      (b) Other Houses..... None.

No. of Houses disinfested.

(a) Council Houses.....None.      (b) Other Houses.....None.

Methods employed for freeing infested Houses from Bed bugs.

None Carried out.

Methods of Ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from Vermin before removal to Council Houses : Houses and furniture inspected.

Is work of disinfestation carried out by Local Authority or by a Contractor : If necessary by Contractor.

Measures taken by way of Supervision or Education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing .....None.

### Summary of Report.

The birth rate shows a decrease on last year.

The crude death rate is higher than in 1945 and than the average for the past five years.

The mortality for Cancer shows a slight decrease ; and that of Tuberculosis shows a decrease on the figure for 1945.

The maternal mortality is Nil and the infant mortality is lower.

With the exception of sporadic cases of Influenza, Scarlet Fever and Measles, and one case of diphtheria, the area has remained healthy.

## Vital Statistics, 1946.

	Total	Male	Female
Births in 1946.....	109	59	50
Deaths in 1946.....	98	47	51
Still Births in 1946.....	2	1	1

7,278 Population	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Per 1,000 of Population. Death rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death rate from Cancer	Maternal Mortality Rate Per 1,000 live Births	Per 1,000 total still & live Births	Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live Births
Mean of 5 years							
1941-45	14.7	12.9	0.30	1.97	2.12	2.08	52
1945	15.0	12.3	0.29	2.06	Nil	Nil	19
1946	14.9	13.4	0.27	1.92	Nil	Nil	9
Increase or decrease in 1946 on 5 years' average							
1941-45	+0.2	+0.5	-0.03	-0.05	-2.12	-2.08	-43
Previous year	-0.1	+1.1	-0.02	-0.14	Nil	Nil	-10



# Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council

---

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

on

### The Sanitary Condition

of the

District for the Year Ended 31st December, 1946

---

To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde  
Urban District Council.

Sir and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my sixteenth Annual Report on the sanitary conditions of the district and the work done during the year ended 31st December, 1946.

Area of District, 2,410 Acres ; Population, 7,278.

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1946 according to Rate Book : 2,143.

#### Particulars of Sanitary Accommodation.

Privy Closets.....	26
Pail Closets.....	37
Waste Water Closets.....	5
Fresh Water Closets.....	2,421
Dry Ashpits.....	17
Movable Ashbins.....	2,112

### Conversions.

		During year 1946
No. of	{ to fresh water closets.....	0
privy closets	{ to waste water closets.....	0
	{ to pails, etc.....	0
No. of	{ to fresh water closets.....	0
pail closets	{ to waste water closets.....	0
Number of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles....		0

### Sewerage.

Regular cleansing and rodding of the sewers have been carried out. The Disposal works consist of Ferro-Concrete tanks with a capacity of six times the dry weather flow of the district served by the sewers. Before the sewage enters these tanks it passes through a screening chamber. The outfall consists of a 27 inch diameter cast iron main fitted with the necessary valves and tidal flap and the sewage is discharged into the River Wyre Estuary on the ebb tide. These works have been satisfactorily maintained during the year and there have been no complaints.

### Scavenging.

The scavenging of the district has been done regularly. The refuse is collected in a covered motor lorry and is conveyed away from the town to Skippool Marsh, where the resultant tip is under partial control.

### Camping Sites.

(a) No of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1946.	Six
(b) No. of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by local authority under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.	One
(c) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1946.	500

### **Sanitary Inspections.**

No. of premises visited, 167.

Defects or nuisances : No. discovered 77 ; No. abated 77.

No. of Notices served :—Informal 77 ; Statutory—None.

Legal proceedings :—None.

### **Factories and Workshops.**

Number on Register :—49. Conditions :—Satisfactory.

### **Bakehouses.**

Number on Register :—8. Conditions :—Good.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There is one common lodging house in the district, and the accommodation is for 32. It has been regularly inspected and has been kept in a very satisfactory condition.

I am,

Sir and Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

**WILFRED G. WOOLLEY,**

Cert. R. San. Inst.,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.





